

# The Bell-Ringer

FIRST PARISH CHURCH  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
P.O. Box 1764, Duxbury, MA 02331



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**May 11<sup>th</sup>**--**"Annual Mother's Day Worship Service"**, This year Welcoming Congregation Committee is delighted to have Alex Myers, author of the book 'Revolutionary,' to speak on the topic of local legend Deborah Sampson who disguised herself as a man to join the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Alex will join Catherine in the pulpit and will be available for an after-church discussion and book signing. **(HIP CAR WASH during church.)**

**May 18<sup>th</sup>** --**"Balloon Sunday"**- **Join us for one of the best services of the year!** A service for the whole family. The service will include recognition, appreciation, and celebration of our Church School year together. Picnic following Worship and Church School picture at 12 p.m. **(see RE pg. 3 for details)**

**May 25<sup>th</sup>**--**"The Fields of Gettysburg"** In honor of Memorial Day, and with the help of our wonderful friends, the Williams College Reunion Jazz Band, we will reflect upon how Unitarians and Universalists changed the Civil War--and how the Civil War changed us.

**June 1<sup>st</sup>**--**"Unknown Unknowns, Living With Uncertainty" "Annual Meeting Sunday"** -- Catherine will be joined by Michael Gardner in the Pulpit for **9 a.m.** Worship Service. The Annual Meeting will follow Worship at **9:30 a.m.** in the Harvey Assembly Hall. **(Church School Families will be reimbursed for child care expenses for attending Annual Meeting.)**

## COMING EVENTS

### TUESDAY MAY 6

Bell Choir 7-8:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY MAY 7

Building & Grounds 9:00a.m.

RE Meeting 7:00p.m.

### THURSDAY MAY 8

Book Club 9:00a.m.

Alliance 10:00-2:00p.m.

Govern. Board Agenda 7:00-8:00p.m.

### FRIDAY MAY 9

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven 7:00p.m

### SATURDAY MAY 10

Jr. High Conference 9:00am-9:00pm

### SUNDAY MAY 11

#### MOTHER'S DAY

#### HIP CAR WASH

Social Justice 9:00a.m.

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30a.m.

Worship 10:30a.m.

Buddhist Group 5:00-6:30p.m.

### MONDAY MAY 12

Welcome Congregation 7:00p.m.

Finance Committee 7:00 p.m.

Bible 7:00p.m.

### TUESDAY MAY 13

Memoirs 7:15p.m.

Bell Choir 7-8:30p.m.

### WEDNESDAY MAY 14

Kindred Spirits 10:00-11:30p.m.

Communications 7:00-9:00p.m.

*(Continued on page 8)*



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTER...

My Dear Friends,

Hard to believe, but as we approach the end of this church year, I am finishing my **10<sup>th</sup> year** serving as your minister--*time really does fly when you're having a good time!!* Anniversary years that end with zeros are always good times for reflection, so I've been spending time recently thinking about how these past ten years have unfolded.

In our beautiful old leather-bound book we record (and done so in this book for about the past 100 years!) what the book calls "Church History." So turning the pages of this book last night I noted the following:

In the past ten years we have **welcomed 144 New Members** among us. Two things about this Membership number amazed me: The number of new members over the past 10 years is more than the size of a typical UU congregation—*in other words, had these folks joined together instead of joining FPC, they would have created a UU church of their own—SO GLAD THEY DECIDED TO JOIN FPC INSTEAD!!* And the second interesting fact is this: *nearly half of our current church membership joined our church over the past ten years.* Many of our members have been with us for 20, 30 and even 40 years or more—we at FPC are a happy mix of old and new members!!

## First Parish Church

Unitarian Universalist, Duxbury, Massachusetts

P.O. Box 1764, Duxbury, Massachusetts 02331

842 Tremont St. (Route 3A)

Email: [uuduxbury@verizon.net](mailto:uuduxbury@verizon.net)

Telephone: 781-934-6532

Website: [www.duxburyuu.org](http://www.duxburyuu.org)



*A liberal religious community dedicated to nurturing individual spiritual development, promoting understanding and working for social justice.*

*We welcome people of all races, backgrounds and sexual orientations.*

Rev. Catherine Cullen, Minister  
 Sunsue Fleming, Director of Religious Education  
 Edwin Swanborn, Music Director  
 Elaine Stephansky, Bell Choir Director

Rev. Robert R. Walsh, Minister Emeritus  
 Jackie Smith-Miller, Director of Religious Education, Emerita  
 Lenore O'Malley, Church Administrator  
 Alex Pevzner, Jr., Junior Choir Director

### ***Minister's Message continued from page 1 . . .***

The other data that is recorded in our leather-bound "Church History" are rites of passage.

- Over the past 10 years we have recorded the names of 105 people for whom I had the privilege of officiating at a memorial, funeral or graveside service. Some of these folks were members and friends of FPC. Some felt a connection to our church, enough so that they or their family members chose our church as the site of the Celebration of Life. The names of each were recited at our Annual Meeting in the year of their death and we continue to hold these beloved departed ones not only in our church records but also in our hearts.
- Over the course of these past ten years I officiated at 70 marriages and dedicated or baptized 73 children---interesting how close these numbers are, *and yes some of these young people were indeed the children of parents whom I had married!*

So these are "the facts" of these 10 years among you—but facts in no way tell the full story. There are some good things that come from preparing for a tax audit (which I recently had to do!). Searching through boxes of documents in the attic, I came upon a copy of "The Charge to The Minister" that my dear colleague Ken Read-Brown from Old Ship Church had offered when I was ordained in 2002 by First Parish Brewster. I have been reflecting on that charge as I write my Annual Report, so I invite you to read my thoughts in that report, which will be published soon. But he ended by saying, "May your ministry and your life be blessed, wherever it leads..."

*And my dear, dear friends, I am so happy that ten years ago, I was "lead" to serve as your minister. You have each and all been such a blessing in my life. With deep gratitude and joy, I look forward to the continued unfolding of this ministry we share!!*

*Catherine*



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



## **Church School Registration 2014 - 2015**

We are already preparing for next year and ask that you register your children toddlers through grade 12 into next year's program even if they are currently enrolled. We will have a table set up during coffee hour during the month of May, so please stop by the table and register your children for next year.



## **Sun., May 11th, 2014 - HIP Car Wash/Mother's Day**



Save the date to get your car all sparkly for Spring! The HIP group will be washing cars this Mother's Day during the service. It's pretty simple. When you arrive at church, stop by the table outside the back door of the church and drop off your key, payment and description of car (color, model, plate number). During the service, adults will move the cars into place where the HIP group will wash them. Part of the fun is finding your car afterwards!



## **Sun., May 18th, 2014 - Balloon Sunday**



Each year, at the end of May, our Sunday school program, which runs on an academic schedule, comes to a close. We set aside one Sunday service to celebrate our accomplishments, milestones, and our community.

We call this event Balloon Sunday, because at the end of the service, everyone is given a balloon to take home or let go. We plan to end our service in our Harvey Assembly Hall and anyone who wants to release a balloon will do so in that hall. No balloons can be released in the church sanctuary for fear of setting off our alarm... and we don't purposely release balloons into the sky for environmental reasons.

Everyone is invited to attend church together for the special celebration of our lifespan religious education program. During the service the following groups will receive special recognition. We hope all children and youth will attend to receive their awards!

### **A bridging ceremony for two special groups who are celebrating important milestones:**

1. High School Seniors will be recognized and welcomed into the Adult Life of the church.
2. Grade 8 will be recognized and welcomed into our High School HIP (Happy Interesting People) Group.

### **We will also have special recognition and awards:**

1. H.S. Youth who took responsibility to plan, coordinate and actively participate in their varied programs will be recognized.
2. Coming of Age

**Please note Balloon Sunday marks the end of our church school year.** After May 18<sup>th</sup> our church school space is used to organize and sort items for our summer fair. We encourage families with older children to stay in the service. Oliver Worsh-Farnum our church school assistant will be available in the parlor to help with you and your younger child who may need to leave the service. The classrooms will not be available however for childcare.

**Sun., May 18th, 12 p.m. - Church School Picture**

On **Sun., May 18**, we will be taking a picture of the entire Church School (Toddlers - Gr. 12) on the front steps of the church. We hope all our young people will be here that day for this photo. We also invite all adults who have been group leaders this year to be in the photo. We'll meet on the front steps at noon.

**Monday, May 19, 7:30 - 9 p.m. - OWL Parent Meeting**

David Murphy and Colleen Anderson, our OWL (Our Whole Lives) church school leaders next year, will be holding a meeting for parents of young people currently enrolled in the church who will be entering **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall**.

This is a mandatory meeting to inform parents of the content and expectations for our OWL program for next year. We look forward to your input and most importantly your support for the positive growth experience your loved ones will be taking with us.

Questions? Please call Sunsue Fleming, (781) 934-6532 ext. 4, David Murphy or Colleen Anderson.

**Infant and Child Dedication Sunday**

A Dedication Ceremony will be held during the Worship Service on **Sunday, June 15**. Sunsue and Catherine will co-officiate. Parents, the church school and congregation will welcome the children and dedicate themselves to the important work of supporting parents in raising their child. Please contact either Catherine or Sunsue if you would like your child dedicated at this service.



**Rocks Needed For Our Labyrinth**

We are moving forward with our plans for a walking labyrinth. This labyrinth will be placed at the bottom of the hill behind the parking lot. We now need **rocks!** Please start bringing rocks from your yard or beach the size of a cabbage or bigger. We will need lots of rocks. Please place them at the bottom of the path to the town forest at the back of the parking lot.

**MEMOIRS**

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, May 14th, 2014** – “Television In Your Life”. When did television enter your life? What effect did it have? What programs do you remember? This informal group meets monthly to provide support for people interested in writing their memoirs. It is great keepsake to pass on to your children. If you are interested, but have never participated, feel free to come and just listen. Hope you can join us! **Leader: Jackie Smith-Miller.**



**May Birthdays, Happy Birthday to All!**

Callie Brandeis	Austin Gaenicke
Clara Bulman	Ceilidh Mackechnie
Thomas Clifford	Katherine Parent
Justin Connor	Erik Schweitzer
Charlie Crowley	Haley Scott
Josephine Cunningham	Madeline Welch



## ***Ringing Out Justice!***

News of social justice activities at First Parish Church



### **Box Project Summer Help**

The last Box Project donation date is May 18th. If you are able to help the families for the summer, please either purchase a \$25 Stop and Shop gift card or give the money to Carrie or drop it off in the shed. Thanks so much for all you do!

### **Father Bill's/Community Table ~ Saturday, May 24th**

Saturday, May 24th will be our last day of serving and providing lunch at the Community Table this church year! We need volunteers to serve, casseroles, salads and desserts to feed about 150 guests at the Community Table. We invite you and your family, your friends or your small group to join us in person or by providing food. If you haven't served at the Community Table - you are missing out. We meet @ FPC @ 9 am and depart at 9:15 am sharp. We caravan to the Community Table in Brockton and we are finished about 1:30 pm. It is a great experience and fun to be together and share social justice in the real world.

Thank you to all who have volunteered made delicious casseroles, salads and desserts for the guests at the Community Table this church year. I am grateful to you and so are the guests. The Community Table and the guests really count on us. They look forward to our meal.

Please email me, Callie Brandeis, my mom or stop by the Social Justice Table to sign up for Saturday, May 24th!

Thank you!

Callie Brandeis

Youth Coordinator of the Community Table and Social Justice Committee Member FPC

### **Our Next Social Justice Committee Meeting will be this Sunday, May 11 at 9AM. Everyone is Welcome!**

#### **Stop by the Social Justice Table After Sunday Service**

Learn more about our FPC Social Justice Committee's activities. You will find contact information to reach your state and national legislators and important information on poverty— hunger and homelessness, prisons, and immigration in the USA and MA.

Sign up to receive **Key Issue Action Alerts** at [UUSC.org/action-center](http://UUSC.org/action-center) and [uumassaction.org](http://uumassaction.org). Join other UUs to raise and optimize your voice with state and national leaders.

#### **Social Justice Committee Meeting – Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:30p.m.**

The Social Justice Committee will be having a planning meeting on Monday June 16th at 5:30. We will share a pizza and salad dinner and then plan our projects and calendar for next year. Everyone is welcome. If you have any questions, please speak with Cindy Ladd Fiorini.

**Special Collection this Sunday May 11th for UU Urban Ministry Summer Campership Program**

For more than 20 years, UUUM has sent 25 elementary school-age children from Roxbury and nearby neighborhoods to three renowned Boston-area creative arts camps in Dover, Hingham, and Brookline. This creative arts Campership Program provides exciting camp adventures for children whose families would not otherwise have the resources to send their children to camp. The campers enjoy safe, fun, stimulating and transformative summer activities in which they benefit from physical, artistic, mental and emotional development. Children with behavioral issues are placed in alternative camps that are better suited to their needs. Transport to camp is provided when necessary. Parents are asked to pay a \$100 fee per child, as they are able. This fee encourages the parents to financially invest in their children's camp experience. The Roxbury Youth Program Director plus two staff members oversee and evaluate this program. The kids have an amazing time at camp; their parents also have peace of mind. Violence tends to increase during the summer: working parents are grateful that this program provides their children with fun safe activities. UUUM is great organization with strong programs. These campership opportunities open wide many doors for young people. Your support of this program can help transform and empower young students. Please be very generous during the Special Collection, May 11th. Send these kids to camps where lights go on in minds and hearts. If you can't attend on May 11th, it would be super if you'd donate on-line to [UUUM.org](http://UUUM.org).

**UU Mass Action NEWS**

**UUMassAction 9th Annual Advocacy Day May 13 at Arlington St Church and the Statehouse**

Put your faith into action by lifting up your voice in the Public Square on Tuesday, May 13th. Plan to attend the 9th Annual **UU Advocacy Day** from 9:30-3:00 to be held at the Arlington Street Church, across from the Boston Commons. During a fundraising breakfast (9:30-10:30) Dave Wilson, who was central to the 2004 Equal Marriage lawsuit, will share his views about the 10 dynamic years since the ruling. Thereafter, participants will hear about the UU Mass Action issues, eat lunch, and visit our legislators, ending by 3:00. We'll celebrate Equal Marriage by delivering wedding cupcakes to each of Massachusetts' 200 Senators and Representatives in boxes which say: "Thank You for 10 Years of Marriage Equality! Now it's time to *raise the minimum wage, reform drug sentencing, and change our immigration policies.*" Register (includes lunch) and get info at [www.uumassaction.org](http://www.uumassaction.org). **Would you like to travel to Boston together?** Let Nancy know by emailing her.

**UU IMMIGRATION JUSTICE VIGIL MAY 10 at 10:30 am in PLYMOUTH**

With UU voices raised to our government to *Keep Immigrant Families Together*; to *Stop the Raids and Deportations*, UUs and other people of faith will gather at the Plymouth County Correctional Facility, 26 Long Pond Road in Plymouth to bear witness to the pain, suffering and loneliness of those detained and their families and to call for just immigration reform. Add your voice to this call for Justice! Brewster UU is organizing the vigil on May 10th at 10:30 am. If you'd like to attend together, please contact Nancy Nowak. Directions: RT 3 south, Exit 5, Right turn, then Left at first light into Joanne's Fabric parking lot.

**UUMassAction chooses a new (acting) Executive Director**, Laura Wager, LICSW, Northboro UU and Social Activist/Leader. Current Executive Director Jesse Jaeger and his family will move to Montana this summer, when Laura will assume the part-time position. UU Mass Action is in new, strong, skillful hands. Welcome aboard, Laura!

**The new Spiritual Action Leadership Training (SALT) Program for Young Adults** is being developed in collaboration with UUSC, the College of Social Justice, UU Urban Ministry, and the California State Advocacy Network, which has managed a SALT program for about three years. **Do you know a young adult** who might be interested in this 6 month, mentored faith-based, community-justice program? Please let Tom Bozeman or Nancy Nowak know.

**UU Urban Ministry NEWS****SAVE THE DATE: UU Urban Ministry Renewal House Picnic July 12**

The Annual UUUM Renewal House Picnic in Plymouth will be held on Saturday July 12th. Come enjoy fellowship with families who have suffered domestic violence. Enjoy a day with adults, their children, crafts, swimming, boating, conversation, eating, fellowship, FUN! Please plan to participate, connect, and/or contribute food or funds for this wonderful July 12 outing, managed by folks at Kingston UU. More details later! Questions? Call Nancy Nowak.

**UU Urban Ministry Annual Meeting May 15th in Roxbury**

The UU Urban Ministry's Annual Meeting will take place on Thursday, May 15, from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm (lunch included). Come learn about all that is happening at this unique, dynamic UU social justice ministry, founded in 1788 by a Unitarian minister. UUUM is physically connected to the Roxbury UU church which was founded in 1631 by Puritans, one year before FPC Duxbury! Visit this historic church; meet wonderful staff; hear about life-transforming programs. If you would like to drive up to Roxbury together, please let Nancy know.

**Workshop in Falmouth focused on AGE AND ABILITY CONCERNS:**

*How can congregations bring young and old together to work on social justice concerns?*

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Falmouth will host a program on *building multigenerational congregations*, Saturday, May 17, from 9 am to 1:15 pm at their meetinghouse, 840 Sandwich Road in Falmouth. Kim Paquette from the Northern New England District will lead the workshop, addressing a variety of multigenerational issues. Several congregations are working in support of the proposed UUA-GA Community Study/Action Issue called "Empowerment: Age and Ability Reconsidered." This proposal will be discussed in Falmouth on May 17th and presented to the General Assembly in June. For information about this program, please contact Rev. Bob Murphy. Phone: (508) 563-5948. [murphydalzell@aol.com](mailto:murphydalzell@aol.com)

**Continued Calendar:****THURSDAY MAY 15**

Book Club 9:00 a.m.  
 Historical Committee 9:30 p.m.  
 Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.  
 Govern. Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY MAY 16**

Committee on Ministry 5:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY MAY 17****ALL CHURCH PICNIC  
BALLOON SUNDAY**

Jr. & Sr. Choir 9:30 a.m.  
 Worship 10:30 a.m.  
 Church School Picture 12:00noon  
 Denominational Affairs 12:00noon  
 Buddhist Group 5-6:30 p.m.

**MONDAY MAY 19****BOX PROJECT DUE DATE**

Building Use Meeting 11:00 a.m.  
 OWL Meeting 7:30p.m.  
 DRE Relations 7:00 p.m.  
 Bible Group 7:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY MAY 20**

Intern Committee 7-8:30 p.m.  
 Bell Choir 7-8:30p.m.

**WEDNESDAY MAY 21**

Membership Committee 7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY MAY 22**

Book Club 9:00 a.m.  
 Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY MAY 24**

Community Table 9-1:00p.m.

**SUNDAY MAY 25**

Worship 10:30 a.m.  
 Buddhist Group 5-6:30 p.m.

**MONDAY MAY 26****MEMORIAL DAY  
OFFICE CLOSED**

Town Wide Worship 11:00 a.m.  
 Bible Group 7:00p.m.

**TUESDAY MAY 27**

Bell Choir 7:00-8:30p.m.

**THURSDAY MAY 29**

Book Club 9:00 a.m.  
 Alliance 10-2:00 p.m.  
 Baccalaureate Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY MAY 31**

Baccalaureate Rehearsal 9:00 a.m.

**CARING CONNECTION:**

There are many caring members of our church community who are willing to lend a hand to those having a difficult time! The Caring Connection can coordinate meals, transportation, babysitting or visits to shut-ins. For the month of **MAY**, please contact **George Anderson**. For the month of **JUNE**, please call **Caleen Alexanderson**.

**Minister's Office Hours:**

Catherine's regular office hours are **Mon., Wed., and Thur.** from **11 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Tuesdays are her days off and Friday's are her sermon writing days. She may be contacted by cell at (781) 635-5906. If you need to schedule an appointment during office hours or any time after office hours, please feel free to contact Catherine at [TheRevCatherine@aol.com](mailto:TheRevCatherine@aol.com), at her cell number, or by leaving a message at the church.

**Church Office Hours**

The FPC church office is open **Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** Our email address is [uuduxbury@verizon.net](mailto:uuduxbury@verizon.net). If you need anything, please call Lenore and I will be happy to help you.

**People News**

We extend our sincere condolences to the Connor's Family (Chris, Liz & Angela) on the passing of Chris's mother, **PEG CONNORS**. Peg was a longtime friend of First Parish Church. Arrangements are pending.

**JEAN WHALEN** sends her greetings to everyone at FPC! She is still staying in Topsfield.



**ON-GOING CHURCH MEETINGS**

**SUNDAYS** - Family/Child Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Joys & Concerns (2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Announcement Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Silent Joys & Concerns (4<sup>th</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Music Committee (1<sup>st</sup> Sun. each month) 12 p.m.  
 Social Justice 9 a.m. (2<sup>rd</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Welcoming Congregation 9:30 a.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. each month)  
 Denominational Affairs 12:00 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sun.)  
 Buddhist Meditation 6-7:30p.m. (weekly)

**MONDAYS** - Build. Use 11 a.m. (4<sup>th</sup> Mon. each month)  
 Finance Committee 7 p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. each month)

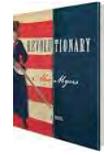
**TUESDAYS** - Hand Bells 7 p.m.  
 Memoirs 7:00p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. each month)

**WEDNESDAYS** - RE Committee 7 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of each month)  
 Staff meeting 11:30 a.m. (weekly)  
 Buildings & Grounds 9-11 a.m. (1<sup>st</sup> Wed. each month)  
 "Kindred Spirits" 10-11:30 p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. each month)  
 Membership 7:30 p.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. each month)

**THURSDAYS** - Book Group 9 a.m.  
 Sewing Group 10 a.m.  
 Worship Committee 7:00 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. each month)  
 Agenda Setting 7-8 p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. each month)  
 Governing Board 7 p.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. each month)  
 Historical Committee 9:30a.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of each month)

**FRIDAYS** - Committee On Ministry 5 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> Fri. each month)

**SATURDAYS** - Brockton Soup Kitchen 9:15 a.m. (4<sup>th</sup> Sat. each month)



**'Revolutionary' Author, Alex Myers**  
**Welcoming Congregation Worship Service This**  
**Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>!!**

Alex Myers, author of the novel 'Revolutionary,' will speak at the Welcoming Congregation worship service May 11<sup>th</sup>. The book is based on the true story of Deborah Sampson who disguised herself as a man to join the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Alex will speak to this fascinating combination of history and gender when he joins Catherine in the pulpit this Sunday! For more on Alex see

<http://alexmyerswriting.com/about/>.



**Attention All Committee Chairs!!**  
**June 1st, Annual Meeting!**

**For those of you that did not get your reports in, please do ASAP!**



**Next Bell-Ringer Deadline:**  
**Monday, June 2nd, 2014 9:00 a.m.**



## **SUMMER FAIR NEWS!!**

The **164th First Parish Church Summer Fair** will be held on **Saturday, June 14th from 8:30am to 2pm**. Volunteers and Donations are greatly needed.

**Volunteers:** Volunteering for the Summer Fair is an incredibly rewarding experience. Volunteers build new and deeper friendships with fellow UUs and become even more integrated members of our vital and loving church community. The overwhelming amount of help needed requires no expertise whatsoever; however, we are seeking at least one person with collectables/antiques or fine jewelry experience. Whether you donate a full day or just a few hours of your time, everything you can do to help the fair is sincerely appreciated. Babysitting costs for volunteered hours can be reimbursed by submitting a note to Rev. Catherine.

**Donations:** A date for donations to begin is not yet set, but should be sometime during the last week of May. The FPC Summer Fair is for the sale of clean, usable items in good condition. A handy listing of what we do and do not accept as donations is at the end of this Bell Ringer. Please, do not place donations in the church shed as it is still being used by the box project. To have your large sized donation or furniture picked up on **Haul Day, Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**, please call Lenore in the church office to be placed on the schedule.

Please contact Summer Fair Chair, Ruth Phillips Oakland at coffee hour or give her a call with any questions regarding donations or volunteering. Thank you!

### **Donations Needed!**

*Donations can be dropped off at the church during business hours and Sundays before and after church beginning May 27th. To schedule a pick-up of large items or furniture on Haul Day, Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, please call Lenore at the church office. Please contact Summer Fair Chair, Ruth Phillips Oakland, with any questions or to volunteer.*

**PLANTS:** When thinning out your perennials, please consider donating extra plants to the Fair. Day lilies and Irises do not sell well, but all other perennials are welcome. If you have questions, need pots, or help dividing please contact Liz Christmann.

**JEWELRY:** Women's, men's, and children's jewelry including Gold, sterling silver, and precious gems, costume jewelry, watches, clean hair accessories, broken or single earrings, gold or sterling pieces and broken strings of beads, Jewelry boxes- all sizes, scarves (not winter scarves), pocketbooks and wallets in good condition, and small boxes for display of fine jewelry. Please, no winter scarves or other clothing items. Questions, contact Karen Sankey.

**BOOKS:** All books, both hardcover & paperback in good condition. Please, no textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, mildewed or damaged books. For more information please contact Woodie & Elaine Lakey.

**WHITE ELEPHANT:** Household & Decorative goods that are clean and in good condition. Small kitchen appliances should be in working condition. No clothing or shoes. Please no TVs or computers. No coffee mugs with logos of any kind. Please - only clean linens in good condition. For more information, please contact Marilyn Christmann.

**AUCTION:** Furniture in good, saleable condition. Please, no appliances of any type, television or television stands, treadmills, mattresses or heavy exercise equipment, couches of any type, and no stuffed or upholstered furniture of any kind unless in new condition. For more information, please contact Peter Nappello.

**COLLECTABLES:** All collectables in good, clean and saleable condition. Please, no broken or chipped dishes and or glass, no sharp objects such as razors, knives, or garden tools etc., and no linen pieces items which are ripped, or torn. For more information please contact Gail Murphy.

**SPORTING GOODS/TOOLS:** All sporting goods and tools, pet items and gardening items. All items must be clean and in good condition. Please, no outdated electronics, computers, computer monitors, outdated televisions or heavy exercise equipment. For more information contact Karl Schweitzer.

**CHILDREN'S WHITE ELEPHANT:** Toys, games and puzzles in good, clean and saleable condition. Please, no car seats, cribs or videotapes. For more information, please contact Kathy Bray, or Sharon Nabreski

**BAKE TABLE:** If you can bake items for fair day, please contact Heidi Connor.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Volunteers are needed to help sort donations, set up/break down the fair, and help sell goods and food on fair day. The Summer Fair is a great place to get to know your fellow UUs, help our church raise money, and become a part of our church history. To volunteer, please see/contact any of the people mentioned in this flyer. WE NEED YOU!

### **Cell Tower Fund Grants**

The Social Justice Cell Tower Grants have been awarded for the spring applications. We are very happy to announce these awards.

To the South Shore Women's Resource Center we gave \$1500 for their work locating women and children escaping domestic violence in short term hotel stays or in longer term safe homes. This will pay for the cost of taxis and hotel stays which have exceeded past years expenses at this time due to increased demand.

To Roxbury Youth Summer Programs Summer Activities we have given \$2200 which will pay for five children to attend five weeks of summer camp at Boston area renowned summer camps. These children will have the opportunity for adventures and exciting experiences at such excellent summer camps.

To UU Mass Action we have given \$1300 to pay for the completion of a curriculum that will empower young Unitarian adults in the urban area to cultivate peace and justice through faith-based relationship building, action and reflection.

To the Prison Book Program we are giving \$500 to pay for postage and mailing materials such as elastics, tape, large envelopes and boxes as well as photocopy services and paperback dictionaries. This program provides donated books that are sent throughout the United States to prisoners who have requested them.

To the English as a Second Language Program we granted \$200 to pay for materials to help advanced students prepare for the Graduate Equivalency Diploma test. With these the tutor will be able to give students materials that she can keep and study and advance to being able to go to college and reach her dreams as well as help her educate her child.

Please let us know if you would like to be on the Cell Tower Fund Grant Committee.

*Carrie Meier, Facilitator*

## LAST CALL!!



**What is it Like to Sing  
"Spirit of Life" with 8000 Other UU's?  
YOU ARE INVITED TO  
HOP ON THE BUS WITH US  
FROM FIRST PARISH CHURCH DUXBURY!  
Join us on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> for a trip to GA 2014 in Providence, RI . . .**

- 8:30am Meet at Parking Lot of First Parish Church,  
842 Tremont Street, Duxbury.**
- 10:00am Arrive at Providence :  
Doors Open for Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.**
- 12-3:00pm Lunch and Visit to UU Exhibit Hall**
- 3:00pm Depart Providence – (Should arrive at Duxbury around 4pm)**

**To Make Reservations on our bus, please contact Lenore at (781) 934-6532 or email at [uuduxbury@verizon.net](mailto:uuduxbury@verizon.net) by June 2nd. Please Note: Anyone under the age of 18 years old, must be accompanied by an adult. It will be several years before GA is so nearby—don't miss this opportunity to worship with thousands of UU's!!**



### **Historical Committee**

The Historic Committee is trying to find information about a painting of magnolia flowers that was found in their archives. We would like to know who gave it to the church and when was it given. It will be displayed at Coffee Hour some Sundays in May and any information would be appreciated.  
Betsy Stevens



### **Attention All Gardeners!**

While you are tending your gardens this spring please consider potting up some of your perennials for the church fair. Day Lillys and Iris' do not sell well, but all other perennials are welcome. If you have questions, need pots, or help dividing please contact Liz Christmann.



### **Rejeana Parker's Ceramic Art**

Rejeana Parker's Ceramic Art will be featured in "The 58th Annual Arts Festival" at The Second Parish Church at 685 Main St. (Rt. 228) in Hingham. The dates are from May 8th - May 18th; open daily from 10 am - 8 pm and on Sundays: Noon - 4 pm.

The Opening Night Reception will be on May 7th from 7 - 9 pm. Everyone is invited for the opening! For more information, call Sandi at 781-749-1671 or e-mail: [secondparish@yahoo.com](mailto:secondparish@yahoo.com).

### **Save the Date! Persephone Returns!**

Persephone's Daughters will present "The Sum of Us" on Sunday afternoon, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 3pm, First Parish Church, Plymouth. Creator/Director Lynne Wilkinson found her inspiration for this concert while listening to an interview of Wynton Marsalis about his composition, Abyssinian Mass. After attending a performance of the Mass Ms. Wilkinson was moved to put together a concert that draws on all of the musical genres that the Persephone's Daughters has performed over the last 12 years, a reflection of "The Sum of Us". The program will include songs from The Great American Song Book, as well as Gregorian Chant and Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah. There will be something for everyone. PROCEEDS FROM THIS CONCERT WILL GO TO FIRST PARISH CHURCH. SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!

### **General Assembly Congregational Study/Action Issues (CSAI)**

The following issues will be discussed during General Assembly and our delegates will be voting on which two to keep for further congregational study/action. It would be helpful to have some guidance from this congregation as to which two issues we would like to pursue. After reading through the issues, you are invited to choose which two interest you the most. You may register your choices by emailing Jeanne Penvenne (Chair of Denominational Affairs) or with Lenore at the church office.

#### **Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue 1** **Proposed CSAI: Empowerment: Age and Ability Reconsidered**

##### **Issue**

The personal is political. Young people and older people know what it's like to be abused, marginalized, and discriminated against because of their age and ability. How can congregations best empower young and old? How can people with different abilities, in different age groups, create the Beloved Community?

##### **Grounding**

Be the change that you want to see in the world. A primary purpose of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is to organize and support congregations. Our congregations are voluntary, self-governing groups that can empower individuals and that can demonstrate new possibilities for creating love and justice.

**Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue 2**  
**Proposed CSAI: Ending the War on Terror**

**Issue**

Since September 11, 2001, the United States has been engaged in a “war on terror,” with the doctrine that “the world is a battlefield.” Torture, extraordinary rendition, detention without trial, extrajudicial assassination by drone strike, dragnet surveillance of phone and internet communications, and military intervention have been conducted in the name of combating terrorism. The military consumes a vast share of the discretionary Federal budget. Yet because much of this war is conducted in secret and constitutes killing by remote control, it is often virtually invisible in Americans’ daily lives, despite our collective responsibility for it. Making the invisible visible as the basis for moral choice is central to the religious practice.

**Grounding**

Unitarian Universalist principles include “the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.” But how do we live by this goal in a chaotic world? Unitarian Universalists have classically been divided between pacifists and those who accept Just War. The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is still somewhat on the sidelines when there are peace initiatives (on Syria, for example); could a new Study/ Action Issue build upon yet move beyond the 2010 Statement of Conscience and bridge old divisions? By looking at the specifics of the post 9/11 world, can we reach consensus for engagement in issues of anti-imperialism and global peace and justice?

**Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue 3**

***Escalating Inequality***

**Issue**

Upward mobility—the American Dream—has become a myth. Concentration of wealth and power has skyrocketed. King’s dream of justice and equality has fractured. Half of all Americans are impoverished or struggling, as the middle class shrinks and billionaires take the profits. Where’s our commitment to the Common Good?

**Grounding**

Our Unitarian Universalist (UU) tradition places its faith in people to create a more loving community for all, guided by “justice, equity, and compassion in human relations”. Challenging extreme inequality has now become a moral imperative, just as prior generations have led movements from abolition to civil rights and marriage equality.

**Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue 4**

***Gun Violence: A Public Health Issue***

**Issue**

Since the tragedy in Newtown, CT, I have been studying the issue of gun violence. Here are some of the facts I have learned: since 1963 166,500 children and teenagers have lost their lives to guns. That is an average of 3,470 deaths every year for 50 years. The number of children and teens killed by guns since 1963 is three times as great as the number of personnel killed in action in the Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq wars combined. That is an average of eight children a day.

Every time a tragedy like Newtown occurs the gun industry would have us ask ourselves, “How did this happen?” The events of Newtown, Aurora, Columbine, Seattle, Fort Hood, Virginia Tech, Wisconsin and oh, so many more are not isolated. They are the direct result of the NRA’s perpetration to sell more guns, to make guns more accessible, to reduce the restrictions on gun purchasing. It is all about the selling of guns and creating new markets for guns.

We are in the midst of an epidemic of violence fueled by the gun industry. The problem of gun violence is a public health issue. We can approach the situation the same way we challenged the tobacco industry, namely by exposing the facts. Because of the facts we have learned to wear seat belts, we have safer highways. We have learned the dangers of smoking, and that foods and drugs need to be regulated.

It is our right as citizens to have access to this data and to all facts regarding consumer products. It is how we make informed decisions. It is unbelievable to me that guns and firearms are not regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Act. The gun industry has strategically protected itself from the consequences of its very harmful products.

I believe the industry will not be able to stand up to the scrutiny of an informed public. Lets learn the facts and take on the national gun industry.

### **Grounding**

As our first UU Principle states, we affirm the worth and dignity of all people. We are called to action on behalf of the innocent victims of gun violence.

## **Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue 5**

### ***Renewing and Security Our American Democracy***

#### **Issue & Grounding**

Negative campaigning,

Voter suppression efforts,

Huge infusions of cash from super-rich donors and narrow special interests into our election and political processes,

Hyper-partisan politics,

The alienation of ordinary citizens,

Decreasing voter turnout,

The erosion of our civil liberties,

—All contribute to a growing fear that our American democracy and government of, by and for the people are in jeopardy.

What can we Unitarian Universalists—with our commitment to justice, equity and the use of the democratic process in society at large—do to protect, renew, secure and further democracy in America?